

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 9-11 are amended in this Amendment. Claim 8 is cancelled without prejudice. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application is presented with an appropriate defined status identifier. After amending the claims as requested, Claims 1-7 and 9-20 remain pending in this Application.

In the Office Action of April 19, 2006, the Examiner allows Claims 1-7, 13-19 as well as Claims 11-12 which are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of these claims.

The Examiner also rejects Claims 8-10 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). The Examiner asserts the Bash et al. reference anticipates these claims referencing elements 602 and 604 in Fig. 7a. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's continued rejection.

Notwithstanding their traversal, Applicants herein cancel Claim 8 without prejudice. Claim 11 is rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. The dependency of Claims 9 and 10 are amended to now depend from independent Claim 11. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 9-11 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the claims as amended herein and the above Remarks, Applicants assert the present Application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the Application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check

being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

5/22/2006

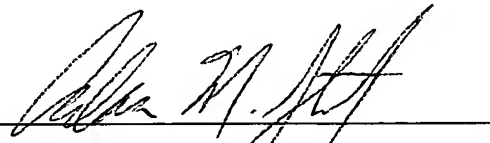
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